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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/646,183	09/14/2000	Ulrike Breiner	48876	5543

26474 7590 07/09/2003

KEIL & WEINKAUF  
1350 CONNECTICUT AVENUE, N.W.  
WASHINGTON, DC 20036

EXAMINER
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SZEKELY, PETER A

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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1714

DATE MAILED: 07/09/2003

*12*

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Office Action Summary**

Application No.

09/646,183

Applicant(s)

BREINER ET AL.

Examiner

Peter Szekely

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 04 June 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-9 and 11-14 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-9 and 11-14 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120**

- 13) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  - ☒ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

**Attachment(s)**

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) \_\_\_\_\_.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112***

1. Claims 1-9 and 11-13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.
2. The phrase, carboxyl derivatives, renders the claims indefinite. The textbook "Organic Chemistry" shows "four of the more common" carboxylic acid derivatives out of "numerous acyl derivatives" extant. Applicants are claiming all, or most of, or some of the unnamed "numerous acyl derivatives". The metes and bounds of the claims are not established, thus they are indefinite.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

4. Claims 1-8 and 11-14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(a or b) as being anticipated by Rody et al. 4,234,700, Huls DE 32 33 953 or Sandoz WO 91/03511, with Akkapeddi et al. 5,541,267 or Degrassi et al. 5,547,765, enclosed as teaching references.
5. Rody et al. show polymers having average molecular weights of 5000, 6100 and in Examples 11 and 14. Akkapeddi et al., in column 3, lines 47-64, state that the film forming molecular weight of polyamides is at least 5000, preferably 5000-1,000,000.

Degrassi et al. make similar statements in column 3, lines 51-67 and column 4, lines 49-63. Accordingly Rody et al. show film-forming polymers. The rejection using the Huls patent, which was inadvertently dropped, is revived as it was made in Paper #5.

References must be considered for all that they disclose and must not be limited to their preferred embodiments or working examples. In re Mills, 470 F.2d 649, 176 USPQ 196 (CCPA 1972). Sandoz discloses applicants' hindered amines in claims 1-5 and states on page 1, first paragraph that said hindered amines are side chains attached to a polyamide backbone. Applicants' claims are not novel.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

6. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

7. Claims 1-9 and 11-14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Rody et al. 4,234,700, Huls DE 32 33 953 or Sandoz WO 91/03511, in view of Kimura et al. 5,714,612, further in view of Akkapeddi et al. 5,541,267 or Degrassi et al. 5,547,765.

8. Kimura et al. teach that both hindered amines and pigments can be added to polyamides during polymerization. See, from column 9, line 42, to column 10, line 15. Accordingly, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art, at the time the invention was made, to add the pigment of Kimura et al. to the reaction kettles of the primary references, since it is shown that all the additives listed in column 9, lines

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52-62 can be added during polymerization. It also would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, at the time the invention was made, to use the film forming compositions of the primary references, as modified by Kimura et al., for the manufacture of sheets, filaments, fibers or moldings, since their excellent stability would make them more resistant to environmental degradation.

9. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Peter Szekely whose telephone number is (703) 308-2460. The examiner can normally be reached on 7:00 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Tuesday-Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Vasu Jagannathan can be reached on (703) 306-2777. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 872-9310 for regular communications and (703) 872-9311 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0661.



Peter Szekely  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 1714

P.S.  
July 7, 2003